

ASSOCIATION VIGI-EOLE

DEPARTMENT OF THE SENATE  
PO BOX 6100  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
CANBERRA ACT 2600  
AUSTRALIA

Reignac,  
February 10th 2011

Dear Sir or Madam,

Vigi-Eole is an association which fights against an industrial wind farm program in south west France, 30 km north of Bordeaux. We are glad to provide you with some data on the French wind farm program.

- ❖ The French program aims at installing around 11000 machines (23GW) – 1000 of which at sea, close to the shore.
- ❖ The French legislation is fairly laxist. It allows machines of over 100 meters (post) to be installed at up to 500 meters from houses which people find unacceptable. Noise, landscape impacts, fire hazards are some of the key issues.
- ❖ On a more general scope, the government guarantees the price at which this electricity is produced at 8,2 cents euros per Kwh, twice the average production cost of electricity in France (our main electricity company has an obligation to buy this electricity at the imposed price). This contributes to a steady increase of the Kwh price paid by the customer (6 % in 6 months). If the program is fully implanted it will cost some 2,5 billion euros yearly (taxes-rates).
- ❖ The program will only create 15 % of the anticipated jobs and contribute negatively some 15 billion euros to our balance of payments most of the machines being imported.

Yours faithfully

Daniel ARDOIN  
Président de l'association Vigi-Eole